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PROCEEDINGS OF STATISTICAL SOCIETIES.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

General Anniversary Meeting, Friday, March 15, 1839.

The Right Hon. Earl FITZWILLIAM, President, in the Chair.

The Fifth Annual Report of the Council for the Session 1838-39, and the Report of the Auditors for the year 1838, were read and adopted.—(For Report *see* p. 129, and for Balance Sheet *see* p. 134.)

George William Wood, Esq. M.P. and James Wishaw, Esq. were appointed Scrutineers of the Ballot for the Council and Officers; and those gentlemen having reported the result of the votes, it was announced from the Chair that the following Members were duly elected as the Council and Officers:—

COUNCIL.

Sir John Boileau, Bart.
The Right Hon. Sturges Bourne, F.R.S.
John Bowring, Esq. LL.D.
John Clendinning, Esq. M.D.
Rev. E. Wyatt Edgell.
T. R. Edmonds, Esq.
Right Hon. Earl Fitzwilliam, F.R.S.
Francis H. Goldsmid, Esq.
Woronzow Greig, Esq. F.R.S.
Henry Hallam, Esq. F.R.S.
James Heywood, Esq. F.R.S.
James P. Kay, Esq. M.D.
Charles Knight, Esq.
The Marquess of Lansdowne, F.R.S.
Sir Charles Lemon, Bart. M.P., F.R.S.
Nathaniel Lister, Esq. M.D.

The Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie.
C. Hope Maclean, Esq.
Herman Merivale, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of Norwich.
W. Smith O'Brien, Esq. M.P.
G. R. Porter, Esq. F.R.S.
C. W. Puller, Esq.
Rawson W. Rawson, Esq.
Edward Romilly, Esq.
Lord Viscount Sandon, M.P.
Colonel Sykes, F.R.S.
Thomas Tooke, Esq. F.R.S.
Captain A. M. Tulloch.
David Urquhart, Esq.
George Wm. Wood, Esq. M.P.

OFFICERS.

President.—The Right Hon. Earl FITZWILLIAM, F.R.S.

Treasurer.—HENRY HALLAM, Esq. F.R.S.

Honorary Secretaries.

James Heywood, Esq. F.R.S.; Charles Hope Maclean, Esq.; Rawson W. Rawson, Esq.

The following Resolutions were carried:—

That at the conclusion of the first clause of Rule 24 of the Society's Regulations, there be added the words, "unless the right of property be especially reserved to themselves by the contributors of communications."

That it is desirable to change the apartments of the Society.

That the following words be substituted for the last paragraph of the 23rd Rule:—"In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents, any Fellow of the Society may be called upon, by the Fellows then present, to preside at an Ordinary Meeting, who may admit Fellows, but shall not be empowered to act otherwise as President or Vice-President."

The noble President having vacated the chair, it was taken by Sir C. Lemon, Bart. M.P., Vice-President; and a vote of thanks to his lord-

ship was unanimously carried for presiding on the present occasion, and for his services in promoting the interests of the Society.

Fifth Ordinary Meeting, Monday, 18th March, 1839.

Sir CHARLES LEMON, Bart. M.P., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Lieutenant-Colonel Pringle Taylor.

Michael Thomas Bass, Esq.

Charles Jellicoe, Esq.

Trevenen James, Esq.

were formally admitted as Fellows.

The following Gentlemen were proposed as candidates for admission :—

The Hon. W. R. Rous, Worstead House, Norwich.

Lewis Vigars, Esq. Downing College, Cambridge.

John Richards, Esq. Cadogan-place.

E. Ayshford Sandford, Esq. M.P. Nynehead, Somerset.

Peter Baume, Esq. North-road, Holloway.

Richard M. Muggeridge, Esq. Assistant Poor Law Commissioner,
Manchester.

The following Gentlemen were elected :—

Bernard Hebel, Esq. York-place, Portman-square.

Henry John Baxter, Esq. Middle Temple.

William Augustus Guy, M.D., Cantab. Professor, King's College.

Alexander Johnston, Esq. Baillie of Glasgow.

Henry Reeve, Esq. Chapel-street, Grosvenor-square.

A Paper was read on the Progress and Present Extent of Manufactures in Prussia, by Rawson W. Rawson, Esq., Honorary Secretary (*see* p. 135).

STATISTICAL SOCIETY OF ULSTER.

THE regular meeting of this Society took place in the Museum on Friday evening, the 4th January, the Rev. John Bradshaw in the Chair.

After the routine business of the Society was disposed of, and several new Members proposed for admission, Mr. Getty read some notices of the annual Reports of the Poor Law Commissioners, which received increased interest from the circumstance of the Belfast Union having been declared on the 1st instant.

In the course of the conversation which afterwards ensued, one gentleman mentioned a fact which bears on the question of relief in kind. He was in the habit of giving weekly alms in money to the mendicants of his parish. The number who applied was about thirty. On substituting relief in kind it was at once reduced to fifteen. Another fact was stated by the same gentleman. The mendicants are alarmed at the mention of confinement in workhouses, and enquire anxiously how they can evade this, expecting, when a union is formed, to get beyond its limits into some neutral ground. This shews the necessity of commencing operations in all places at the same time.

A Committee was then appointed to observe and record the operation of the new Poor Law in the Belfast Union, to enable the Society to judge of the effect of the great experiment now to be tried in this country.

At the Monthly Meeting, 25th January, Samuel Bryson, Esq., in the Chair, a number of ordinary members were elected, and George Nicholls,

Esq., the Commissioner of Poor Laws, was added to the list of honorary members. The Earl of Caledon, the Secretary stated, had, since last meeting, become a life member.

A communication was received from Sir Robert A. Ferguson, Bart., M.P., containing a classification of the County Cess for the Counties of Tyrone and Derry. This it is intended to publish as a model for other Counties; and for the purpose of obtaining similar returns, blank forms are in preparation. Mr. Bryce reported from the Education Committee that they had perfected the series of queries entrusted to them, which were in the hands of the printer.

At the Monthly Meeting, 1st February, Alexander Mitchell, Esq., C.E. in the Chair, a communication was read from the Rev. William Bruce, urging the Society to procure "as authentic a statement of the particulars of the late storm as possible—its limit as to breadth—the direction of the wind—height of barometer, and range of thermometer, during its continuance—the electrical state of the atmosphere, both at the time, previously, and subsequently; and, what seems very important, the line of direction which it took in laying waste plantations, &c." Mr. Bruce, at the same time, communicated the observations he had himself made at the time. A letter was read from Mr. Whitla, one of the Secretaries to the Society, calling their attention to an advertisement published by the Royal Dublin Society, inviting communications respecting the kinds and circumstances of the trees which suffered during the storm, anticipating that some national advantage may be gained, by determining, from the actual state of timber of different ages, what kinds are best adapted to particular soils and situations. A Committee was then appointed to carry into effect the suggestions contained in these communications. Several other letters were read on various subjects.

The first Quarterly Meeting was held on Friday, the 15th of March. The Marquis of Donegall, President, in the Chair.

Mr. Getty having read the Report of the Council, which detailed the proceedings of the General Meetings since the opening of the Session, in which it was stated that for the accommodation of as great a number of members as possible, it had been arranged to have two kinds of meetings—Monthly General Meetings at 8 o'clock in the evening, the hour which suited Members residing in Belfast, and Quarterly Meetings for the accommodation of country Members. A ballot was taken for new Members.

Mr. Porter, of Tandragee Castle, then read some statistical notices on the pawnbroking system in the county of Armagh. After which Dr. Andrews reported progress from the Committee on Medical Statistics, stating that "several enquiries had been instituted, particularly one as to the causes, progress, and mortality of typhus fever. Careful observations are also in progress at the hospitals to ascertain in a general manner the influence of external circumstances on the development of that important disease." The Rev. Dr. Reid then read a proclamation of Sir James Carroll, Lord Mayor of Dublin, A.D. 1613, regulating the prices of wages, &c., in that city. It is copied, it was mentioned, from the Lansdowne MSS. in the British Museum, and is not referred to by

any of the historians of Dublin. By this, labourers were to be paid, with meat and drink, 2*d.* per diem for the winter half-year, 3*d.* in summer; 5*d.* additional if not found in food. Carpenters, joiners, coopers, masons, tylers, plasterers—masters, 8*d.* per day; journeymen, 6*d.*; apprentices, 4*d.*: additional, if not found in food, 8*d.*, 6*d.*, 5*d.*, respectively. Gardeners seem to have been in demand, being paid the same as master-tradesmen. The prices were also fixed for paving, for hides, for tallow, from the butcher to the tallow-chandler, for candles, for tanning leather and for shoes, which seem to have been a favourite object for legislation. There were also several police regulations, which shew the state of society at the period. Dr. Reid mentioned that he was preparing some account of the length of incumbency of a large number of the Presbyterian Clergy of the North of Ireland, which he thought would be found interesting, as bearing on the question of the duration of life.

Mr. Bryce reported that the Queries on Education were nearly ready for distribution.

A copy of Sir R. A. Ferguson's Tables, as printed, was laid on the table.

MISCELLANEOUS.

An Abstract of the Number of Violent Deaths which occurred in the Borough of Liverpool during the Year 1838.

	Number.
Drowned	50
Run over by carts, &c., in the streets	12
Falling from buildings, &c.	6
Falling from rigging of shipping, &c, or into dry docks	16
Falling in the streets	6
By horses	5
Other accidents	18
Suicides, while under mental derangement, by poison	5
„ „ „ „ by other means	11
Excessive drinking	6
Apoplexy, or other causes of sudden death in which verdicts have been returned, “Died by the visitation of God”	68
Accidentally burned to death	*62
„ scalded „	11
„ overlain	7
„ poisoned	6
„ killed by machinery	6
„ „ fire-arms	1
„ „ goods falling	5
„ „ falling down stairs	4
„ „ drinking boiling water	1
„ „ falling into cellars	1
Died from the bite of mad dog	2
Choked while eating	2
Exposure to the inclemency of the weather and starvation	31
New-born infants found dead	31
Total	348

* Of these no fewer than 51 were children.